GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:213
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2006
IMPORT OF ARECANUT .
Shivanna Shri M

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) The quantity of arecanut imported during each of last three years and the current year, country-wise;

(b) Whether the prices of arecanut has decreased due to import during the above period, and

(c) If so, the steps taken by the Government to check the import of arecanut and save the domestic industry?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

a) The information is appended.

b) The percentage share of imported Arecanut is not significant to the total production. Thus the chances of domestic prices being affected due to import of Arecanut are very remote.

c) The Government is closely monitoring the imports and is committed to ensure through tariff and other measures that imports do not cause injury to the domestic farmers. In order to adequately protect the domestic farmers interest, the duty on import of Arecanut (Betel Nut) has not been reduced from 100% during the last six years (i.e. from 07.07.2000). Duty free imports for exports purposes do not affect the domestic farmers, as imports are with Actual User Condition and imported stock cannot be diverted to Domestic Tarrif Area.

Appendix

APPENDIX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 213 DUE FOR ANSWER ON 25.7.2006 REGARDING "IMPORT OF ARECANUT".